

# Halloween



Every October 31 children dress up in a costume and go from house to house begging for candy or treats. They go trick-or-treating.

## I. Discuss:

- *Do you do something special in autumn?*
- *Do you ever wear costumes?*
- *Do you or did you ever go begging for candy?*

Teenagers and adults also celebrate Halloween during the month of October. People attend costume parties, carve jack-o-lanterns, build bonfires, bob for apples, visit haunted houses, tell ghost stories, and watch horror films.

Popular costumes are witches, ghosts, pirates, princesses, fairies, clowns, skeletons, animals, and mummies. Some people pretend to be people from history, from movies, from books and sports.



## II. Dialogues:

- Read the dialogs with a partner.

*A. It's October 14th. Marty and Janet are friends.*

Marty: Halloween is in two weeks. Let's have a Halloween party.

Janet: That's a great idea! We can have it at my house.

Marty: If you fix some snacks, I'll get the decorations and I'll carve the jack-o-lantern.

Janet: Okay. I can fix hot chocolate and bake some pumpkin cookies. I'll even decorate the cookies with black cats.

Marty: That'll be perfect. Let's tell our friends.



*B. It's October 31 and time for the party.*

Marty: It's almost eight o'clock. Our friends will be here soon. I'll light the candle in the jack-o-lantern.

Janet: I'm almost ready. I just have to put on my monster mask. Nobody will know who I am.

Marty: Yeah, You'll look pretty scary! You should go trick or treating.

Janet: I'm too old for that but I'll try and scare our friends tonight.


## . III. Look at the Language:

- In each dialog, underline the ideas for the Halloween party.
- Write the sentences in the grid.

Dialog	Statement of occasion	Suggestion = Subject + verb	Object = idea	Response Comment	Offer ideas	Confirmation
1	Halloween is in two weeks.	Let's have	a Halloween party.	That's a great idea!	<p>We can have it at my house.</p> <p>If you fix some snacks, I'll get the decorations and I'll carve the Jack-o-lantern.</p> <p>Okay. I can fix hot chocolate and bake some pumpkin cookies.</p> <p>I'll even decorate the cookies with black cats.</p>	That'll be perfect. Let's tell our friends.
2		I'll		I'm almost ready.		

#### IV, Practice

- Look at the picture.
- Underline the correct sentence.

	<p>a. Anne: Tomorrow is Halloween. Let's go to see a horror movie.</p> <p><u>b. Anne: Tomorrow is Halloween. Let's go to a haunted house.</u></p>
	<p>a. Mark: Tonight is Halloween. Let carve a pumpkin.</p> <p>b. Mark: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go trick or treating.</p>
	<p>a. Sam: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go trick or treating.</p> <p>b. Sam: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go to a horror movie.</p>
	<p>a. Lisa: Next week is Halloween. Let's have a party.</p> <p>b. Lisa: Next week is Halloween. Let's tell ghost stories.</p>

#### IV. Write your own Halloween dialog and perform it for your class.

- Use the following ideas or think up your own.

To tell ghost stories

To build a bonfire

To go trick or treating

To bob for apples

To have a party

To dress up in a costume

To be a ghost, a pirate, a mummy, a princess, Batman, Ironman, Cat Woman, etc.











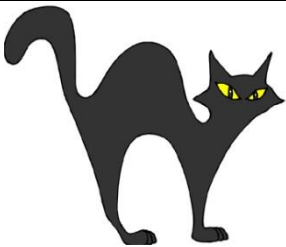

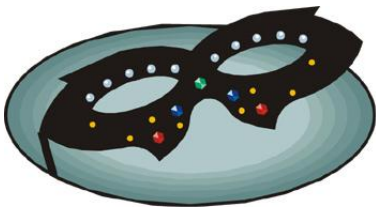
To scare someone



To play a trick on someone

## Halloween Vocabulary

	to bob for apples		bonfire
	costume (Cleopatra and a cat)		ghost stories
	haunted houses with ghosts and bats		Horror films
	Jack-o-lantern (to carve a pumpkin with a knife)		witch on a broom stick
	skeleton		mummy
	princess		fairy

	clown		Black cat
	pirate		mask



## History

There are two possible origins of Halloween. One is that Halloween came from a Roman festival for the goddess of fruits and seeds and the other is that it came from the Celts festival of Samhain which means summer's end. The festival of Samhain celebrates the end of the "lighter half" of the year and beginning of the "darker half". The ancient Celts believed at this time of year spirits (both harmless and harmful ones) came to earth. The family's ancestors were honored and invited home. Dangerous spirits were to be warded off. It was believed if a person wore a costume and mask, a harmful spirit would not know who they were and would leave them alone. Many Halloween traditions come from the old English traditions. The word *Halloween* was first used in 16th century Scotland for *All-Hallows-Even* ("evening"). *It was the night before All-Hallows Day or All Saints.*







*Snap-Apple Night* by Daniel Maclise showing a Halloween party in Blarney, Ireland, in 1832. The young children on the right bob for apples. The couple in the center try to bite an apple hanging from a string.

## Symbols

### Jack-o-lanterns



The carving of pumpkins in America was popular during harvest time because there are very many pumpkins and because pumpkins are large and easy to carve. When the Irish immigrants came to America in the 1800's they replaced their tradition of carving turnips to keep away evil spirits and began using pumpkins. It was then that carved pumpkins became part of the Halloween tradition.

Other symbols of Halloween come from novels, like *Dracula*, and movies, like *The Mummy*. Hollywood has brought ghosts, witches, black cats, spiders, bats, graveyards and skeletons to life in Halloween films.



This is a row house in Washington decorated for Halloween.



## Trick or Treating and Costumes



The tradition of trick-or-treating began in Canada in the early 1900's. By the 1930's Halloween was popular in the United States. Today thousands of children in America and Europe put on a costume and go out trick-or-treating usually between 6:00 and 8:00 pm on October 31. It is great fun for children and adults alike.

## Images of Halloween



### V. Halloween Matching

1.   b   ghost

2.        jack-o-lantern

3.        trick or treating

4.        witch

5.        skeleton

6.        mummy

7.        bat

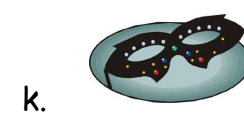
8.        black cat

9.        mask

10.        treats

11.        costumes

12.        haunted house



### VI. What did you learn?

- Did you like this lesson? Why?
- What is your favorite thing about Halloween?

## Halloween Activity Ideas for teachers

*Objective - Students will be able to talk about Halloween using appropriate vocabulary and to practice English by pretending to be a specific person from either history, movies, books or sports. Students will have fun doing something different and practice English through culture.*

You can find a lot of ideas at these links.

<http://www.eslkidstuff.com/HalloweenGames.htm>

These sites have cross word puzzles and word searches for Halloween.

<http://www.esl-galaxy.com/holiday/halloweencwhigh.pdf>

<http://canada-esl.com/lessonsmain/halloween-vocabulary-wordsearch-puzzle.html>

<http://www.english-zone.com/teach/wordfind1.html>

## Twenty Questions Game

### Homework

- Decide on a character
- Research that character
- Be prepare to answer questions and speak about this person

*Play this game before students wear their costume*

(One student is chosen or volunteers to stand before the class.)

- Ask, "Who am I?"
- You can only answer yes or no.
- Students take turns asking 20 questions to discover who you are.

(Students must ask yes/no questions)

Examples:

- Are you a man?
- Are you a real person?

- Are you from a book?
- Are you alive?

After 20 questions are asked the student can tell the class who they are.

### **Reading Comprehension for Advanced Students**

#### **A Halloween Classic: "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe**

**Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,  
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore -  
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,  
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.  
"'Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door -  
Only this and nothing more."**

pondered = thought

lore = story

rapping = knocking

muttered = said

**Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December,  
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.  
Eagerly I wished the morrow; -vainly I had sought to borrow  
From my books surcease of sorrow -sorrow for the lost Lenore -  
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore -  
Nameless here for evermore.**

bleak = sad, black and cold

ember = burning piece of wood glowing orange

wrought = presented

morrow = the next day

maiden = woman, girl

**And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain  
Thrilled me -filled me with fantastic terrors never felt before;  
So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating,  
"'Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door -  
Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door;  
This it is and nothing more.**

rustling = movement that makes noise

entreating = asking for

**Presently my soul grew stronger; hesitating then no longer,  
"Sir," I said, "or Madam, truly your forgiveness I implore;  
But the fact is I was napping, and so gently you came rapping,  
And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my chamber door,  
That I scarce was sure I heard you" -here I opened wide the door; -  
Darkness there and nothing more.**

implore = ask for

scarce = hardly

**Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there wondering, fearing,  
 Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream before;  
 But the silence was unbroken, and the stillness gave no token,  
 And the only word there spoken was the whispered word "Lenore!"  
 This I whispered, and an echo murmured back the word "Lenore" -  
 Merely this and nothing more.**

peering = looking into  
 gave no token = gave no sign

**Back into the chamber turning, all my soul within me burning,  
 Soon again I heard a tapping something louder than before.  
 "Surely," said I, "surely that is something at my window lattice;  
 Let me see, then, what threat is, and this mystery explore -  
 Let my heart be still a moment and this mystery explore; -  
 'Tis the wind and nothing more!"**

window lattice = frame around the window

**Open here I flung a shutter, when, with many a flirt and flutter,  
 In there stepped a stately Raven of the saintly days of yore.  
 Not the least obeisance made he; not an minute stopped or stayed he;  
 But, with mien of lord or lady, perched above my chamber door -  
 Perched upon a bust of Pallas just above my chamber door -  
 Perched and sat and nothing more.**

flung = threw open  
 flutter = movement of wings, noise  
 stately = magnificent  
 obeisance = gesture of deference, respect  
 mien = manner of  
 perched = how a bird sits

**Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into smiling,  
 By the grave and stern decorum of the countenance it wore,  
 "Though thy crest be shorn and shaven, thou," I said, "art sure no craven,  
 Ghastly grim and ancient Raven wandering from the Nightly shore -  
 Tell me what thy lordly name is on the Night's Plutonian shore!"  
 Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore!"**

beguiling = charming  
 countenance = bearing, manner  
 crest = head  
 thou = old English for you  
 art = are  
 craven = cowardly, mean-spirited  
 thy = old English for your

**Much I marvelled this ungainly fowl to hear discourse so plainly,  
 Though its answer little meaning -little relevancy bore;  
 For we cannot help agreeing that no living human being  
 Ever yet was blest with seeing bird above his chamber door -  
 Bird or beast upon the sculptured bust above his chamber door,  
 With such a name as "Nevermore".**

marvelled = was surprised  
 ungainly = ugly  
 fowl = bird  
 discourse = speech  
 bore = contained, had

**But the Raven, sitting lonely on the placid bust, spoke only  
 That one word, as if his soul in that one word he did outpour.  
 Nothing farther then he uttered; not a feather then he fluttered -  
 Till I scarcely more than muttered: "Other friends have flown before  
 - On the morrow he will leave me as my Hopes have flown before."  
 Then the bird said "Nevermore".**

placid = peaceful  
 uttered = said

**Startled at the stilless broken by reply so aptly spoken,  
 "Doubtless," said I "what it utters is its only stock and store,  
 Caught from some unhappy master whom unmerciful Disaster  
 Followed fast and followed faster till his songs one burden bore -  
 Till the dirges of his Hope that melancholy burden bore  
 Of `Never -nevermore'."**

aptly = well  
 stock and store = repeated phrase  
 dirges = sad songs

**But the Raven still beguiling all my sad soul into smiling,  
 Straight I wheeled a cushioned seat in front of bird, and bust, and door;  
 Then, upon the velvet sinking, I betook myself to linking  
 Fancy unto fancy, thinking what this ominous bird of yore -  
 What this grim, ungainly, ghastly, gaunt, and ominous bird of yore  
 Meant in croaking "Nevermore".**

betook = moved myself  
 fancy = here used as noun meaning imagined story, thought  
 yore = from the past  
 croaking = the sound a frog makes, usually a very ugly sound coming from the throat

**This I sat engaged in guessing, but no syllable expressing  
 To the fowl whose fiery eyes now burned into my bosom's core;  
 This and more I sat divining, with my head at ease reclining  
 On the cushion's velvet lining that the lamp-light gloated o'er,  
 But whose velvet violet lining with the lamp-light gloating o'er  
 She shall press, ah, nevermore!**

bosom = chest, heart  
 divinig = guessing

**Then, methought, the air grew denser, perfumed from an unseen censer  
 Swung by Seraphim whose foot-falls tinkled on the tufted floor.  
 "Wretch," I cried "thy God hath lent thee -by these angels he hath sent thee  
 Respite -respite and nepenthe from thy memories of Lenore!**



**Quaff, oh quaff this kind nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore!"  
Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore".**

methought = old English for "I thought"  
censer = a container for burning incense  
wretch = horrible person  
hath = old English for has  
thee = old English for you  
respite = rest from  
nepenthe = a drug providing a way of forgetting something  
quaff = drink quickly or recklessly  
Quoth = quoted

**"Prophet!" said I "thing of evil! -prophet still, if bird or devil! -  
Whether Tempter sent, or whether tempest tossed thee here ashore,  
Desolate, yet all undaunted, on this desert land enchanted -  
On this home by horror haunted, -tell me truly, I implore -  
Is there -is there balm in Gilead? -tell me -tell me, I implore!"  
Quoth the Raven, "Nevmore".**

Tempter = Satan  
tempest = storm  
balm = liquid that eases pain  
Gilead = biblical reference

**"Be that word our sign of parting, bird or fiend!" I shrieked, upstarting -  
"Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's Plutonian shore!  
Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken!  
Leave my loneliness unbroken! -quit the bust above my door!  
Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door!"  
Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore".**

parting = separation, leaving  
fiend = monster  
shrieked = shouted, screamed  
plume = type of feather  
quit = leave

**And the Raven, never flitting, still is sitting, still is sitting  
On the pallid bust of Pallas just above my chamber door;  
And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's that is dreaming,  
And the lamp-light o'er him streaming throws his shadow on the floor;  
And my soul from out that shadow that is floating on the floor  
Shall be lifted -nevermore.**

flitting = moving  
pallid = pale

**Attached is the a more simplified version of the lesson with an answer  
key for the graphic organizer.**

# Halloween



Every October 31 children dress up in a costume and go from house to house begging for candy or treats. They go trick-or-treating.

## I. Discuss:

- *Do you do something special in autumn?*
- *Do you ever wear costumes?*
- *Do you or did you ever go begging for candy?*

Teenagers and adults also celebrate Halloween during October. People go to [costume parties](#), carve [jack-o-lanterns](#), visit [haunted](#) houses, tell [ghost stories](#), and watch [horror movies](#).

Popular costumes are witches, ghosts, pirates, princesses, fairies, clowns, skeletons, animals, and mummies.



## II. Dialogues:

- Read the dialogs with a partner.

*A. It's October 14th. Marty and Janet are friends.*

Marty: Halloween is in two weeks. Let's have a Halloween party.

Janet: That's a great idea! We can have it at my house.

Marty: I'll get the decorations and carve the jack-o-lantern.

Janet: Okay. I can get some pizza and Halloween candy.

Marty: That'll be perfect. Let's tell our friends.



*B. It's October 31 and time for the party.*

Marty: It's eight o'clock. I'll light the candle in the jack-o-lantern.

Janet: I'm almost ready. I just have to put on my monster mask.

Marty: Yeah, You'll look scary! You can go trick or treating.

Janet: I'll scare our friends tonight.



## . III. Look at the Language:

- In each dialog, underline the ideas for the Halloween party.
- Write the sentences in the grid.

Dialog	Statement of occasion	Suggestion = Subject + verb	Object = idea	Response Comment	Offer ideas	Confirmation
1	Halloween is in two weeks.	Let's have	a Halloween party.	That's a great idea!	<p>We can have it at my house.</p> <p>I'll get the decorations and carve the jack-o-lantern.</p> <p>Okay. I can get some pizza and Halloween candy.</p>	That'll be perfect. Let's tell our friends.
2		I'll		I'm almost ready.		

#### IV, Practice

- Look at the picture.
- Underline the correct sentence.

	<p>a. Anne: Tomorrow is Halloween. Let's go to see a horror movie.</p> <p><u>b. Anne: Tomorrow is Halloween. Let's go to a haunted house.</u></p>
	<p>a. Mark: Tonight is Halloween. Let's carve a pumpkin.</p> <p>b. Mark: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go trick or treating.</p>
	<p>a. Sam: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go trick or treating.</p> <p>b. Sam: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go to a horror movie.</p>
	<p>a. Lisa: Next week is Halloween. Let's have a party.</p> <p>b. Lisa: Next week is Halloween. Let's tell ghost stories.</p>

#### IV. Complete your own Halloween dialog and it for your class.

- Use the following phrases or to complete the dialogs.

To tell ghost stories

To go trick or treating

To have a party

To dress up in a costume

To scare someone

To make a Jack-o-lantern



#### Example:

1.

**Sean:** It's Halloween. Let's dress up in our costumes.

**Jim:** Okay. And we can \_\_\_\_\_

2.

**Maria:** It's Halloween. Let's \_\_\_\_\_

**Tom:**



## Halloween Vocabulary

	<p>to bob for apples</p> <p>To catch the apples with your teeth.</p>		<p>Bonfire</p> <p>To start a bonfire</p>
	<p>Costume</p> <p>To dress up like Cleopatra and a cat.</p>		<p>ghost stories</p> <p>To tell a ghost story</p>
	<p>haunted houses with ghosts and bats</p>		<p>Horror films</p> <p>To go to see a horror movie</p>
	<p>Jack-o-lantern</p> <p>(to carve a pumpkin with a knife)</p>		<p>witch on a broom stick</p> <p>A witch flies on a broom.</p>
	<p>skeleton</p>		<p>mummy</p>
	<p>princess</p>		<p>fairy</p>

Answer Key for Grid on next page.

Answer key for practice

	<p>a. <u>Mark: Tonight is Halloween. Let's carve a pumpkin.</u></p> <p>b. Mark: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go trick or treating.</p>
	<p>a. <u>Sam: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go trick or treating.</u></p> <p>b. Sam: Tonight is Halloween. Let's go to a horror movie.</p>
	<p>a. Lisa: Next week is Halloween. Let's have a party.</p> <p>b. <u>Lisa: Next week is Halloween. Let's tell ghost stories.</u></p>

Dialog	Statement of occasion	Suggestion = Subject + verb	Object = idea	Response Comment	Offer ideas	Confirmation
1	Halloween is in two weeks.	Let's have	a Halloween party.	That's a great idea!	<p>We can have it at my house.</p> <p>I'll get the decorations and carve the jack-o-lantern.</p> <p>Okay. I can get some pizza and Halloween candy.</p>	That'll be perfect. Let's tell our friends.
2	It's eight o'clock.	I'll light	the candle in the Jack-o-lantern	I'm almost ready.	<p>I just have to put on my monster mask.</p> <p>You'll look scary! You can go trick or treating.</p>	I'll scare our friends tonight.